

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace the paragraph on page 14, line 17, with the following paragraph:

Figure 3A through Figure 3B shows an alignment of a non-naturally occurring variant human caspase-12 isoform, designated hCaspase-12 (SEQ ID NO: 77) in the Figure and described in more detail in Example 3B below, with murine caspase-12 (SEQ ID NO: 84). *Legend for Domains as calculated by PFAM:* CARD Domain = XXXXXXXX; ICE-p20 Domain: YYYYYYYY; ICE-p10 Domain: ZZZZZZZ; Active-Site Residues: **H...C**; Calpain and Auto-catalytic cleavage sites determined for Mouse Caspase-12.